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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/49/610/Add.2)]

49/185. Human rights and terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1/ and the International Covenants on Human Rights, 2/

Bearing in mind that the most essential and basic human right is the right to life,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993, 3/

Recalling also its resolution 48/122 of 20 December 1993,

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

3/ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/46 of 4 March 1994 4/ and resolution 1994/18 of 25 August 1994 of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, 5/

Reiterating that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, and also that every individual should strive to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance,

Seriously concerned at the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups,

Profoundly deploring the increasing number of innocent persons, including women, children and the elderly, killed, massacred and maimed by terrorists in indiscriminate and random acts of violence and terror, which cannot be justified under any circumstances,

Noting with great concern the growing connection between the terrorist groups and the illegal traffic in arms and drugs, as well as the consequent commission of serious crimes such as murder, kidnapping, assault and robbery,

Mindful of the need to protect human rights of and guarantees for the individual in accordance with the relevant international human rights principles and instruments, particularly the right to life,

1. Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation of all acts, methods and practices of terrorism, as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and security of States, destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, undermining pluralistic civil society and having adverse consequences on the economic and social development of States;

2. Expresses its solidarity with the victims of terrorism;

3. Calls upon States to take all necessary and effective measures in accordance with international standards of human rights, to prevent, combat and eliminate all acts of terrorism wherever and by whomever committed, and urges the international community to enhance cooperation in the fight against the threat of terrorism at national, regional and international levels;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the possible establishment of a United Nations voluntary fund for victims of terrorism and to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, for its consideration, a report containing comments made by Member States on the subject;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Member States and to competent specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations for their consideration;

4/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 4 and corrigendum (E/1994/24 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

5/ See E/CN.4/1995/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/56, chap. II, sect. A.

6. Encourages special rapporteurs, special representatives and working groups of the Commission on Human Rights, as well as treaty bodies, to pay appropriate attention, within their mandates, to the consequences of the acts, methods and practices of terrorist groups;

7. Decides to consider this question at its fiftieth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

94th plenary meeting
23 December 1994